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CONSTITUTION

OF THE

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

OF MONTREAL.

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ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The name of this Society shall be "The Young Men's Christian Association" of Montreal.

ARTICLE II.

BASIS.

SECTION I.—This Association seeks to unite those young men, who, regarding Jesus Christ as their God and Saviour according to the Holy Scriptures, desire to be His disciples in their doctrine and their life, and to associate their efforts for the extension of His kingdom amongst young men.

SECTION II.—This Association adopts as the basis of all its proceedings those fundamental principles of Evangelical Christianity on which all orthodox Protestant Churches are agreed, and will never admit any intermeddling with those matters of faith and polity on which such Churches differ.

ARTICLE III.

OBJECT.

The object of this Association shall be the improvement of the spiritual, mental, social and physical condition of young men, by ways and means hereafter designated.

ARTICLE IV.

MEMBERS.

SECTION I.—The members of this Association must be young men, at least fourteen years of age, and shall be classed as follows: Active, Associate, Sustaining, Life and Honorary Members.

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ARTICLE V.

REAL ESTATE.

The real estate or immovable property of the Association, as well as all funds of the Association, from whatsoever source derived, shall be held in its corporate name, and be managed and administered by the Board of Directors. In the management of the said real estate or immovable property, the President of the Montreal Auxiliary Bible Society, and the President of the Canada Sunday-School Union shall be *ex-officio* members of the said Board of Directors, but shall not be entitled to vote upon any questions except those affecting its real estate or immovable property.

ARTICLE VI.

OFFICERS.

SECTION I.—The Officers of this Association shall consist of a Board of Twenty-one Directors, not more than one-third of whom shall be members of any one denomination, and they shall elect a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and a Recording Secretary from among themselves, as hereafter provided.

SECTION II.—The general objects of the Association shall be carried out under the management of the Board of Directors.

SECTION III.—The Board of Directors shall have power to make and adopt Rules and By-Laws for their government, not inconsistent with the Act of Incorporation or this Constitution.

ARTICLE VII.

COMMITTEES.

There shall be Committees of the Association appointed to carry forward its work, and Committees of the Board appointed to supervise the business affairs of the Association. Special Committees may be appointed when ordered by the Association or the Board. The Board of Directors shall define the duties of these Committees, and the President shall appoint them, subject to ratification by the Board. The President shall be *ex officio* a member of all Committees.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENTS.

This Constitution can only be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds (⅔) of the Active Members present at any stated meeting of the Association, provided such amendments shall have been previously approved of by the Board of Directors, and have been proposed in writing at a regular meeting of the Association three (3) months previous to action thereupon.

BY-LAWS.

ARTICLE I.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION I.—Any young man, fourteen (14) years of age, who is a member in good standing, of an Evangelical Church in this city, may become an Active member, on payment of two (2) dollars per annum, in advance, for those twenty-one (21) years of age and over,—and one (1) dollar per annum, in advance, for those under twenty-one (21) years of age. Active members alone shall have the right to vote and hold office. Active members may be elected at any regular monthly business meeting of the Association, provided a written application has been made to the Membership Committee, which has been approved of and recommended by them. Five negative votes shall defeat any applicant.

SECTION II.—Any young man of good moral character may become an Associate Member on payment of two (2) dollars per annum, in advance, for those twenty-one (21) years of age and over, and one (1) dollar per annum, in advance, for those under twenty-one (21) years of age. Either the General Secretary, or in his absence, the Assistant Secretary, may admit persons to Associate or Sustaining Membership, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence to such officers that the applicant is a person of good moral character.

SECTION III.—Any young man of good moral character may become a Sustaining Member by the payment in advance of five (5) dollars per annum. An Associate or Sustaining Member who shall unite with an Evangelical Church, becomes thereby an Active Member, due notice having been given to the Secretary.

SECTION IV.—Life Members may be constituted by the payment of one hundred (100) dollars at any one time, subject to the qualifications and restrictions named in Article I, Section I.

SECTION V.—Honorary Members may be proposed at any regular meeting subject to the same qualifications and restrictions as Active and Life Members.

SECTION VI.—Membership years shall commence on the first day of the month succeeding the election, or admission of the member. The fiscal year of the Association shall commence May 1st.

SECTION VII.—Any member in arrears three (3) months for annual dues may be debarred all the privileges of membership, at the discretion of the Board.

SECTION VIII.—The members of this Association shall seek out young men, resident or strangers, in Montreal or its vicinity, and endeavor to bring them under moral and religious influences, introduce them to the members and privileges of the Association ; secure their attendance at some place of worship on the Sabbath, and by personal effort try to win them for Christ. They shall labor to induce all suitable young men to join the Association, and seek to increase its activity and usefulness.

ARTICLE II.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS.

SECTION I.—The Annual Meeting shall be held in the month of May,—one month's notice shall be given of the date thereof. At this meeting there shall be chosen by ballot from the members of the Association, seven (7) Directors who shall hold office for three (3) years. At the first annual meeting held after the adoption of these By-Laws there shall be elected seven (7) Directors who shall hold office for three (3) years, seven (7) others who shall hold office for two (2) years, and seven (7) others who shall hold office for one (1) year. The Board of Directors, through the Committee of Vacancies, shall submit a nomination of seven (7) Directors to replace those retiring, at least one month before the date of election, and other nominations from the Association may be received at the annual meeting. Vacancies occurring during the year may be filled by the Board from among eligible members of the Association.

SECTION II.—The Board of Directors at their first meeting succeeding the Annual Election shall elect by ballot one of their number to be President, one to be Vice-President, one to be Recording Secretary, and one to be Treasurer of the Board and of the Association ; said Officers shall hold office for one (1) year, or until their successors are appointed. There shall also be appointed a General Secretary, and such other employes as may be needed.

SECTION III.—The Board of Directors shall have power to elect nine (9) Advisory Directors who shall be members in good standing of Protestant Evangelical Churches, not more than one-third (⅓) from any one denomination. They shall be notified of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall have the right to attend and participate in the discussion of all matters brought before the Board, but shall not be entitled to vote. Such Directors, when elected, shall be divided into three classes, which shall hold office respectively, one (1), two (2), and three (3) years. Upon the expiration of such terms respectively, the successors of those whose terms of office expire shall be elected by the Board of Directors for a term of three (3) years.

ARTICLE III.

MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

SECTION I.—The stated meetings of the Board shall be held on the second Monday evening of each month. Seven (7) shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION II.—The following shall be the order of business : —

1. Devotional Exercises.
2. Calling roll.
3. Reading minutes.
4. Treasurer's report.
5. Reports of Standing Committees.
6. Report of General Secretary.
7. Reports of Special Committees.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.

SECTION III.—Special meetings of the Board may be called by the President, or he shall call the same at the request of three (3) Directors. The object of the special meeting shall be stated in the notices, and no other business shall be transacted excepting that for which the call is issued.

SECTION IV. If any member of the Board shall absent himself from three consecutive monthly meetings of the Board, his place shall be deemed vacant, unless his absence shall be excused by the Board, and the vacancy may be filled after notice is given to such absentee. It shall be the duty of the Recording Secretary to call the attention of the Board to all cases requiring action under this rule.

SECTION V.—In order to preserve the representative character of the Board, any member changing his denominational connection shall be deemed to have resigned, and the vacancy so created snall be filled as hereinbefore provided.

ARTICLE IV.

DUTIES AND POWERS OF OFFICERS.

SECTION I.—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board. He shall appoint all Standing Committees, subject to ratification by the Board, to consist of not less than three (3) members each, and announce the same to the Board at the next regular meeting after his election. He shall be an *ex officio* member of all Standing Committees of the Board and of the Association.

SECTION II.—The Vice-President shall, in the absence of the President, have all the powers, and perform all the duties of President. In the absence of the President and Vice-President, a Chairman shall be appointed from among the Board.

SECTION III.—The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors, and shall perform such other duties as may be assigned to him by the Board. He shall receive and file the written reports of the various Committees made to the Board.

SECTION IV.—The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds of the Association. He shall present to the Board at each regular meeting a Monthly Report, and at the Annual Meeting in May in each year, an Annual Report of his accounts and of the funds of the Association. He shall pay all the demands against the Association, upon vouchers properly certified by the Finance Committee. He shall be a member of the Finance Committee.

SECTION V.—The General Secretary shall be appointed by the Board of Directors, and shall have charge and control of the general work of the Association ; shall conduct all the correspondence thereof, and revise all printed matter issued thereby. He shall attend the meetings of the Board and the Committees of the Board, but shall not have the right to vote, be *ex officio* a member of the Committees of the Association, and shall attend their meetings. All other employés shall be under his supervision.

SECTION VI.—The Board of Directors shall have the general supervision and control of the work and policy of the Association in all its details. All Secretaries or employés of any kind are to be employed and controlled solely by the Board of Directors.

SECTION VII.—If any Societies, or Organizations of any kind, are formed within the Association, or under its auspices, the Board of Directors shall be *ex officio* members thereof, and shall control the same as in their judgment may be necessary.

ARTICLE VI.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

SECTION I.—The Standing Committees of the Board shall be designated as follows :—

1. The Executive Committee.
2. The Finance Committee.
3. The Rooms and Library Committee.
4. The Lecture and Classes Committee.
5. The Committee on Vacancies.
6. The Visiting Committee for the Rooms.
7. The Committee on Branches.

SECTION II.—The several Committees shall keep minutes of their proceedings, and shall read the same as their report to the Board at each regular meeting. No Committee shall contract any indebtedness without previous appropriation of the Board therefor.

SECTION III.—The Executive Committee shall have all the power of the Board of Directors, except that they shall not use any money of the Association, unless previously appropriated to them by the Board ; nor shall they have the power to reconsider or reverse any action of the Board had at any previous meeting. They shall meet at least once a week. They shall consider and mature plans for the general work of the Association, and confer and advise with the various Committees of the Association. They shall have the direction of the paid agents of the Association.

SECTION IV.—The Finance Committee shall have charge of the financial affairs of the Association. At the June meeting of the Board of Directors, they shall submit a budget in writing, giving the estimates for the ensuing year. All bills, before payment by the Treasurer, shall be certified by the proper officers, and approved of by the Committee. They shall meet at least once a month for the examination of accounts and other business. They shall submit a Monthly Statement to the Board of Directors.

SECTION V.—The Rooms and Library Committee shall have charge of all rooms and departments of the Association, and shall establish such rules and regulations for the policy thereof as shall in their discretion seem best. They shall provide for the increase, preservation, and arrangement of the Library and reading matter in the rooms, and for the purchase of, repairs to, and restoration of the furniture. No publication shall be admitted to the Library and Reading-room, unless approved of by them.

SECTION VI.—The Lecture and Classes Committee shall, subject to the approval of the Board, provide for the delivery of lectures. They shall have charge of the educational classes of the Associati , shall employ teachers, and make

rules and regulations for the same. They shall visit the classes from time to time, and keep themselves fully informed. They shall have charge of the monthly meetings, receptions, and other entertainments of the Association, and all the arrangements thereof.

SECTION VII. — Committee on Vacancies. — Vacancies occurring in the Board of Directors during the year, by resignation or otherwise, shall be filled as follows:—Nominations shall be made at the regular meeting of the Board, and shall be referred to the Committee on Vacancies, to report at the next regular meeting of the Board. On such a report, an election by ballot shall take place to fill the unexpired term. The Committee shall not recommend for election any person until they have ascertained, by personal enquiry of the nominee, that he is ready and willing to perform the duties of a Director. The Committee on Vacancies, at the meeting next preceding the Annual Election of the Association, shall report the names of persons to fill the places of those Directors whose terms of office expire by law. The names thus reported with approved by the Board, shall be submitted to the Association for ballot at the ensuing regular election.

SECTION. VIII.- The Visiting Committee for the Rooms shall consist of all the members of the Board of Directors, exclusive of the President. Two members shall be named for each month of the year, July and August excepted. The Secretary shall furnish each Director with a list of appointments for the year, and any Director may furnish a substitute from among his fellow-Directors by exchange or otherwise. The Visiting Committee for the Rooms each month shall, as the official representatives of the Board, be present at the regular monthly meeting of the Association, and the religious meetings held at the Rooms. They shall acquaint themselves with the religious conditions of the Association, and the working of each of the Committees, and shall report the same to the Board in writing.

ARTICLE VII.

BRANCHES.

The Board of Directors shall at such time and place as they may think advisable, establish and maintain branches, and shall discontinue the same at any time that they may think best. These branches shall be under the entire control of the Board of Directors, under such regulations as the Board may from time to time adopt. The Branches shall not contract any indebtedness except by authority of the Board of Directors.

ARTICLE VIII.

RULES FOR THE ROOMS.

SECTION. I.—The Rooms of the Association shall be opened every week-day (holidays not excepted) from 8.30 a.m. to 10 o'clock p.m., and on the Sabbath during hours of religious services only.

ARTICLE IX.

MEETINGS.

SECTION I.—There shall be a meeting of the Association on the third Thursday evening of each month, except in the months of July and August, when

they may be omitted if the Board of Directors so direct, for the election of members, other than Associate, for the promotion of social and Christian fellowship, for the presentation of reports by the Association Committee, and such other exercises or business as may be provided by the Board of Directors. Order of exercises :—

1. Devotional.
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
3. Proposition and election of members.
4. Reports of committees.
5. Such other exercises as may be provided for.
6. Adjournment.

SECTION II.—A Public Anniversary Meeting of the Association shall be held annually, the date thereof to be fixed by the Board.

SECTION III.—At all the meetings of the Association, fifteen active members shall constitute a quorum.

SECTION IV.—Special meetings of the Association shall be called by the President at the written request of ten active members, or by order of the Board of Directors, notice being given in at least one daily paper.

SECTION V.—All meetings of the Association shall be opened by reading the Scripture and Prayer. No essays, or motion, of a sectarian or political character, shall be entertained by the Association, nor shall any denominational or political reference be made in any meeting of the Association or Board.

ARTICLE X.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

SECTION I.—The Standing Committees of the Association shall consist of not less than three members each, the chairman and members of which shall be appointed by the President of the Association on consultation with the General Secretary. The Committees shall be announced at the regular meeting of the Association following the annual election.

1. Devotional Committee.
2. Mission Committee.
3. Membership Committee.
4. Employment Committee.
5. Reception Committee.
6. Invitation Committee.
7. Boarding House Committee.
8. Railway Committee.
9. Committee on Visiting Sick Young Men.
10. Committee on Work Among Boys.

SECTION II.—The Devotional Committee shall have charge of all the regular religious meetings carried on in the Building, and shall aid the General Secretary in the religious work. This Committee may be divided into sub-committees in carrying out the object of its appointment.

SECTION III.—The Mission Committee shall have charge of all the religious meetings held outside the Building, except the work amongst the railway men. The meetings shall be held for the purpose of proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to lost men, and for urging its acceptance upon its hearers.

SECTION IV.—The Membership Committee shall devise ways and means to increase the membership of the Association, and shall receive all applications for active and life membership, and after examination as to the character of each applicant shall report to the Association the names of those who are eligible for election. They shall have charge of the membership list, and shall use every effort to introduce new members to churches of their choice.

SECTION V.—The Employment Committee shall aid young men in obtaining employment. They shall secure information concerning applicants from former employers, and keep the same on file. They shall give full information to employers in relation to young men whom they may introduce.

SECTION VI.—The Reception Committee shall arrange for at least one member on duty each evening of the week, who shall aid in making the rooms pleasant and attractive to members and strangers. At the close of each evening family prayers shall be conducted under the direction of the Committee. This Committee shall arrange for the ushers at the various public meetings and receptions.

SECTION VII.—The Invitation Committee shall devise and execute plans for bringing young men under the influence of the Association, and securing their presence at the religious meetings by personal solicitation, and distributing notices in the hotels and on the streets.

SECTION VIII.—The Boarding House Committee shall keep a register of respectable and well kept boarding houses. They shall visit as far as possible these boarding houses, and invite the young men to attend the Association. This list shall be revised once every six months.

SECTION IX.—The Railway Committee shall have charge of the work among the railway men, and shall endeavor to influence the management and directors so that it may become permanently a part of the Company's work.

SECTION X.—The Committee on Visiting Sick Young Men shall attend promptly to all calls upon them, and seek to cheer and aid them during sickness. When necessary they shall also provide "watchers" to sit up during the night.

SECTION XI.—The Committee on Work for Boys shall arrange and carry out religious and social meetings for boys.

SECTION XII.—All the Committees of the Association are appointed for the purpose of aiding in the work of more effectively reaching and saving young men. If any Committee stands in the way of accomplishing these objects, the Board shall disband such Committee. If any member or members of a Committee are hindering its usefulness the President shall have power to remove him or them from such Committee.

SECTION XIII.—All Committees shall notify the General Secretary of their meetings.

SECTION XIV.—It shall be the imperative duty of all the Committees of the Association to organize immediately after their appointment, elect a Secretary, and keep correct minutes of all their proceedings, to decide what stated meetings they will hold during the year.

SECTION XV.—It shall also be the duty of all Committees of the Association to report in writing to the Association once a month. The Board shall have the right to call for a report from any of the Committees at any time.

ARTICLE XI.

DISCIPLINE.

No person shall hold any office or position of trust in this Association who shall cease to profess and practice the fundamental doctrines of Evangelical Christianity, and the Board of Directors shall have full power to investigate any questions of the doctrines or conduct of any officer or member of the Association, and upon a two-third (⅔) vote of the Board such officer or member may be removed from office or membership.

ARTICLE XII.

AMENDMENTS.

SECTION I.—These By-Laws may be amended by a two-third (⅔) vote of the members present at any regular meeting of the Association, notice having been given at a previous regular meeting of the proposed amendment.

SECTION II.—Any By-Law may be suspended by a two-third (⅔) vote of the members present at any regular business meeting.